Numb. 76.

# The Female Tatler.

## *Written by a Society of* Ladies.

*Pro Deum atque hominem fidem, quod hoc genus eſt, quæ hæc Conſuratio, Ut omnes Mulieres eadem æque Studiant, nolintque omnia? Neque declinatam quicquam ab aliarum ingenio ullam reperias, itaque adeo uno animo omnes Socrus oderunt nurus.*
Terence Hecy.

From **Wednesday** December 28, to **Friday** December 30, 1709.

### Lucinda's Day.

*From my Drawing Room.*

HOW many are the Evils that are capable of Deſtroying our Happineſs in every Station of Human Life? Yeſterday *Arteſia* was pitying the uncomfortable Condition of a Young deſerving Lady, that ſeemingly enjoy'd all the Bleſſings to be wiſh'd for on this ſide the Grave. *Altamira*, ſaid ſhe, is Married to a Gentleman of a very great Eſtate, they are of equal Years, love one another to Fondneſs, and have a Beautiful thriving Boy of a Twelvemonth Old: He is Generous, ſhe is Diſcreet, both are of an admirable Temper, and neither of 'em guilty of any Vice. Indeed *Cozen*, ſaid *Arabella* interruptiong her, I ſhall hardly be perſwaded, that granting what you have ſaid, any Woman's Life can be Uncomfortable, unleſs ſhe wants her Health; No, anſwer'd *Arteſia*, they are both Vigorous as well as Healthy, and as to their Families both are Honourably Deſcended, and of an unſpotted Reputation; the only Grievance ſhe labours under is a Mother-in-Law, that doating on her Son, made it her Bargain when they Married, to be with them as long as ſhe liv'd. The Old Lady when her Husband was Alive, had been an Incomparable Wife, every body counted her a very good humour'd Woman, and there could not be a Tenderer Mother than ſhe had always been to herChild. She thought no body more worthy of her Son than *Altamira* before he had her, it was by her Advice that he courted her, and no body could be more eager for the Match than herſelf; yet they had not lived together half a Year, but every Look, Word or Action of the Daughter-in-Law was miſconſtrued, now *Altamira* is a Hypocrite, all her Virtue is but Counterfeited, and all the Love ſhe ſhews to her Husband is profound Diſſimulation; ſhe hates him, and all his Family wiſhes for his Death, and under Pretence of Kindneſs endeavours to make her laſt the Inſtrument of it. Theſe Things the Mother continually buzzes in the Sons Ears; ſhe blames him for his Fondneſs to a Wife that ſlights him, bids him take Care of his Health, and beware of the fallacious Smiles of a Treacherous Woman. The Son who is clear ſighted, knowing *Altamira*'s Innocence, ſtrives to Cure his Mother of her Ill-grounded Suſpicion, but nothing is able to convince her, and the more he defends the Virtue of his Wife, the more his Mother is incens'd againſt her. *Altamira* entirely aſſured of her Husband's Affection, bears all her Cenſures with an uncommon Patience, which the Husband would repay with a double Kindneſs, but that he is afraid of his Mother's Anger; ſhe having Wealth enough of her own, he would fain have perſwaded her to live ſeparately from them, but the thoughts of it would be Criminal. Cou'd any thing make a Son wiſh to be divided from a Mother that loves him more than ſhe does her Life? *Altimera* could endure the Frowns and ill Will of a Mother-in-Law, if they were to affect none but herſelf, but reflecting on her Husband's Tenderneſs to her, and his Dutifulneſs to his Mother, with the Reluctancy he was forc'd to ſhew in both, it was a conſtant as well as unconceivable Sorrow to her, that ſo much Affliction ſhould attend his extraordinary Virtues, and herſelf be the unfortunate Occaſion of all.

This having led us to Four or Five Stories more of Young Ladies that had been made unhappy by Mother's-in-Law, it was ask'd in the Company, what Reaſon there was to be given why the generality of Women ſhould hate all Daughters-in-Law, and at the ſame time be ſo fond of their Sons-in-Law; *Arabella* told us, that in the firſt Place Old Women ſeldom agreed with Young ones, eſpecally if they lived in the ſame Houſe; and ſecondly, that to loſe the upper end of the Table, and to have the Keys and the Miſtreſſhip of the Family taken from them, was as great a Mortification to ſome Women, as to a Field Mareſchal to be Commanded by one of his Lieutenant Generals. As to the Fondneſs of Women to their Sons-in-Law, that thinking themſelves revived in their Daughters, and calling to mind their Youthful Days, they were as Grateful for every Kindneſs their Daughters received, as if it had been done to themſelves.

Moſt of the Company were very well pleaſed with *Arabella*'s Reaſons: What ſhe ſaid of the Sons-in-Law I lik'd well enough my ſelf, but the other I thought not ſatisfactory. Your Reaſon, ſaid I, *Cozen*, would be a very good One, if the generality of Women did not hate their Sons Wives, unleſs they liv'd together in the ſame Houſe, and not only ſo but likewiſe the Houſes where they themſelves had been Miſtreſſes, but you ſee that they ſeldom agree tho they live never ſo far aſunder; wherefore in my Opinion it muſt be ſomething more generally applicable to 'em all that can be alledged as a reaſon of that hatred with which they are ſo generally inſpired. It is not a Proverb of late Date of only Five or Six Hundred Years ſtanding, but in *Terences* time who lived above a Hundred and Fifty Years before Our Saviour was Born, it was a ſaying of unqueſtionable truth, ſo generally received that he made uſe of it in one of his Comedies, and if I was to give my Opinion about the matter it ſhou'd be thus.

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The Generality of Women are very fond of their Sons, in them, when they are grown up they ſee, or at leaſt imagine that they ſee, every thing that was taking or commendable in the Fathers of them when they were Young; this makes 'em as it were Jealous of their Daughters-in-Law, grudging them the Enjoyment of their Sons, becauſe it ſo much reſembles what once they were poſſeſs'd of themſelves, and thought a Crime in others to pretend to, this would be the firſt, my other reaſon for their hatred ſhould be, that they cannot brook ſtrange Women, as they call their Sons Wives, in reſpect to themſelves, ſhould rob them of that Intimacy and Affection which they think they have ſo dearly deſerved.

I thought I had done my Buſineſs very well, but was ſoon taken up by an Elderly Gentlewoman whoſe Son was lately Married: I wonder ſaid ſhe, Madam, how your Couſin *Arabella* and your ſelf, two Maids that never were, and for ought I know, never will be Married, ſhould be ſo vain as to give your Opinions in Matrimonial Affairs, eſpecially ſuch of which none can be Judges, but thoſe that have known what it is to bring up Children of their own. The reaſon for what you talk of needs not to be ſo far fetch'd; moſt Young Women, very few excepted, are fooliſh and pretend to greater Knowledge than they have; as they can Dance a New Minuet better, Walk, Dreſs, Patch, and perhaps look better, than thoſe that are much older, ſo they ſimply imagine that they proportionably excel them in every thing elſe; this makes that they are generally refractory to good Council, and always exclaiming againſt Mothers-in-Law, that for the Love of their Sons are in Duty bound to adviſe them for the beſt: As to the Example your Siſter *Arteſia* has given of the Young Lady, whom ſhe ſaid to be guilty of no Vice, I believe it's a ſad Story; was I to be as near her as her Mother-in-Law is, I don't queſtion but I ſhould diſcover enough of them. —— guilty of no Vice —— its impoſſible! Some People ſay the ſame of a Young Gentlewoman that I am acquainted with, tho ſhe has as as many Faults as ſhe has Hairs upon her Head; it is not likely that Women of Prudence and Experience, who generally Love their Sons and all what belong to them, ſhould find Fault with their Daughters-in-Law if they did not deſerve it, and the Comedy you quote is very little for your purpoſe; the Poor Woman 'tis true is blamed, and the Daughter-in-Law complains ſhe can't live with her; but the upſhot of the Story ſhews you, that ſhe had treated the other with all the Tenderneſs imaginable, and that the Daughter had only wanted an excuſe to get home to her Own Mother's, in order to Lye-in Privately, having been got with Child in the Street ſome Months before ſhe was Married.

I would have anſwer'd her, that I did not prove that Mothers-in-Law hated Daughters-in-Law from what happened in that Comedy, but from the many inſtances that muſt have preceeded to make it a Proverb before that Comedy was acted, but ſhe would not hear a Word, and marched off in Triumph, as having obtained the Victory over all the Daughters-in-Law in the Univerſe.

†‡† *This is to give Notice to all News-Writers, that there is lately come over a* Laplander *that profers to ſell all manner of* Winds *at reaſonable Rates, to bring the Packet Boats in due time, which will ſpare them the Trouble of inventing dull Stories, and exempt the Publick from nauſeous Repetitions that may be of dangerous Conſequence this Chriſtmas time, in which they are Surfeited enough other ways.*

## *ADVERTISEMENTS.*

Juſt publiſhed, the 2d Edition with Additions of,

†‡† A Perſwaſive to Moderation and Forbearance in Love, among the Divided Forms of Chriſtians. By that late moſt Pious and Eminent Divine Mr Jer. White, late Fellow of Trinity Colledge in Cambridge. The 2d Edition To which is added, his Particulars for our Converſe with Men, &c. Sold by N. Cliff at the Golden Candleſtick in the Poultry, and A. Collins at the Black Boy in Fleet ſtreet. Pr. 2 s.

To Morrow will be publiſhed,

*** The Hiſtory of the Campaign in Flanders for the year 1709. Containing an exact Account of all the moſt material Tranſactions, intermix'd with ſeveral Original Letters, and ſome other private Occurrences taken from a Journal made on the ſpot; faithfully Collected by an Officer in the Engliſh Forces. To which is added, the Maps of Tournay and Mons, from the moſt Correct Plan. Sold by A. Baldwin in Warwick Lane. Price 1 s.

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*** A Brief Account of the Woollen Manufactory of England, with Relation to the Prejudice it receives by the Clandeſtine Exportation of Wool from Ireland into France. To which is added, an Appendix. Sold by Dryden Leach, in Elliot's Court, in the Little Old Baily. Pr. 1 s.

*** The Charitable Surgeon: Or, the beſt Remedies for the worſt Maladies, reveal'd; altogether without Mercury, and wholly new in Method and Practice, wherein both Sexes may with privacy and ſmall Charge without any other Advice, or being expoſed to Quacks, cure themſelves of thoſe Diſtempers, which, (if neglected are dangerous as well as Ignominious. By T. C. Surgeon. Sold by E. Curl Bookſeller, removed to the Dial and Bible againſt St Dunſtan'sChurch in Fleet ſtreet Pr. 1 s.

A Moſt Excellent Strengthening Electuary for the Back or Reins, whoſe Balſamick healing Properties in all Weakneſſes and Pains of the Back in both Sexes, whether from Wrenches, Strains, Falls, Blows, or ſecret Injuries, are beyond compare; it likewiſe ſtrengthens the Womb in Women, prevents Miſcarriage. Sold for 3 s. 6 d. a Pot at Mr Spooner's at the Golden Half Moon in Lemon-ſtreet, Goodmans Fields.

*THE delightful Chymical Liquor for the Breath, Teeth and Gums, which in a moment makes the moſt Nauſeous Breath mell delicately fine and charming, and in very little time infallibly Cures, ſo that an offenſive Breath will not return; it certainly makes the blackeſt and moſt foul Teeth perfectly white, clean and beautiful to a miracle; Cures the Scurvy in the Gums, tho never ſo inveterate, making the beſt Fleſh grow again, when almoſt Eaten away, and infallibly faſtens looſe Teeth to admiration, even in Old People, who too often falſly think their Age to be the Occaſion s In ſhort, for delightfully Perfuming and quickly curing an Ill-ſcented Breath, for preſently making the blackeſt Teeth moſt excellently white, certainly faſtening them when looſe, effectually preſerving them from rotting or decaying, and aſſuredly curing the Scurvy in the Gums, it has not its equal in the Univerſe, as abundance of the Nobility and Gentry throughout the Kingdom have experienced. Is ſold at Mr Payn's, a Toy-ſhop at the Angel and Crown in St Pauls Church Yard near Cheapſide, at 2 s. 6 d. a Bottle with Directions.*

*THE True Cephalick or Head Snuff, which in twice or thrice uſing, does infinitely more real good than 50 times uſing any other rt, for by its peculiar Operation and Effects, it Cures the moſt ſtubborn and angerous Diſtempers of the Head, ſuch as Apoplexies; Epilepſies, Lethargies Viſhegoes, Megrims, pains in the Head, Humours in the Eyes, Impoſthums, Vapours, loſs of Memory, Deafneſs, &c, two Papers at moſt times making a perfect Cure, it being what is daily preſcribed and approved by the moſt Eminent Phyſitians. 'Tis to be had only at Mr Varen's a Bookſeller at Seneca's Head near Somerſet Houſe in the Strand, Pr. 1 s. 6 d. the Paper with Directions.*

*AN Infallible, ſafe and laſting Cure for the* Fiſtula *in Ano, in a few Weeks time, tho' of never ſo long ſtanding by a Chymical Liquor lately diſcover'd, to be Injected with a Syringe, without any manner of Pain or need of Cutting, as is uſual in that Caſe, to the great Torment of the Patient, and hazard of Life; it alſo prevents* Fiſtula's *where fear'd. Sold for 5 s. the Bottle, at the Golden-Key, in Warton's-Court, near Holborn-Bars, with a Book of Directions of the Cauſe and Conſequence of that troubleſome Indiſpoſition.*

*THE Vapours in Women infallibly Cured in an* Inſtant, ſo as never to return again, by an admirable Chymical Secret, a few Drops of which takes off a Fit in a moment diſpels Saupneſs, clears the Head, takes away all Swimmings, Giddineſs, Dimneſs of Sight, Fluſhings in the Face, &c. to a Miracle, and moſt certainly prevents the Vapours returning again, or by Rooting out the very Cauſe it perfectly Cures, as huudreds have experienced: It alſo ſtrengthens the Stomach and Bowels; and cauſes Livelineſs and ſettled Health. Is ſold only by Mrs Osborn's, Top-ſhop at the Roſe and Crown under St Dunſtan's Church in Fleet-ſtreet, at 2 s. 6 d. the Bottle with Directions.

THE Grand Chymical Anti-Scorbutick, or Drops, for the curvy. The Surprizing effects of this Medicines has gained it ſuch an Univerſal Reputation, that vaſt quantities, are yearly diſpoſed of in Foreign Countries, as well as here in England, and what is daily uſed by numbers of Phyſicians, Surgeons and Apothecaries in their Practice, and found to be the only certain Remedy for eradicating the moſt inveterate Scurvy, attended with the worſt of Smptoms; as Spots, Blotches, Itches, Eroſian and Bleeding of the Gums, Breaking out of the Skin, Numbneſs, Wearineſs, Pains, &c. carries of gently the Salt ſharp Humours without Confinement, or the leaſt Diſorder, and for maintaining the Appetite, cauſing good Digeſtion, Puryfying the Blood, and rendring the Body lively and vigorous, is not to be exceeded in the whole Republick of Medicines. Is to be had only at Jacob's Coffee-houſe, againſt the Angel and Crown in Threadneedle-ſtreet near the Royal Exchange, at 2 s. 6 d. the Bottle with Directions.